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Virginia Juvenile Justice Association

Celebrating 40 years of advocating for court-involved children and the professionals who touch their lives.

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NEWPORT NEWS JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER KELLY RUMMEL WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

On November 2, 2006, Newport News Juvenile Probation Officer, Kelly Rummel, was honored for her work in the juvenile justice field. While attending the 30th Fall Juvenile Justice Training Institute, in a ceremony before more than 400 juvenile justice professionals and policy makers from across the state, Rummel was presented the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association's *2006 Meritorious Award in the Area of Court Services*.

Rummel has been employed by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice's 7th District Court Service Unit in Newport News for five years. Her co-workers describe her as, "... an excellent example of a dedicated individual who desires to make a difference in the lives of children and her community." They note that she consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty and volunteers to take on additional work. For example, she developed an 8 week anger management class which she conducts three times each year. She also participates in the Department of Juvenile Justice's Gang Prevention Task Force, serving as one of three Regional Coordinators. She has spoken at speaking engagements in her community to offer helpful tips on recognizing the danger signs of gangs and how to effectively intervene to deter youth from gang participation. Together with a colleague she will implement PHOENIX, an intervention curriculum addressing the key risk factors underlying substance abuse, aggression and violence, gang activity and other criminal behaviors.

Outside of her office responsibilities, Rummel serves on her church council and heads the Junior Evangelical Luther League Organization. She also provides programming for high school aged youth and recently completed a three year fundraising effort that allowed youth to attend a gathering in San Antonio, Texas. She is a member of the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association (VJJA) and the Virginia Gang Investigator's Association (VGIA). Rummel and her husband Eric, a police officer with the City of Hampton, have a one year old son, Nathan.

Background: Each year the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association recognizes professionals who have made extraordinary contributions in the juvenile justice field. Meritorious awards are presented in the areas of: Administration, Court Services, Residential Care and Community Service. Recipients are recognized before their peers at VJJA's Fall Juvenile Justice Training Institute, held annually in November.

About VJJA: Founded in 1966, the Virginia Juvenile Justice Association (VJJA) is an organization comprised of professionals representing court services, the judiciary, indigent defense, detention homes, juvenile correctional facilities, halfway houses, group homes, mental health, education, law enforcement, social work, and others with an interest in youth and family services. The organization is administered by an elected board of directors and is committed to child advocacy and advancing the professional interests and competencies of its members. State and local training events are held, with a statewide conference held annually in November. Learn more at www.VJJA.org.



VJJA President Beth Stinnett
Kelly Rummel, Probation Officer CSU 7